IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

CRIMINAL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CRIMINAL APPLICATION NO. 7760 OF 2005

Mr.Riaan Pieter Van Niekerk. ...Applicant
V/s.
Air Intelligence Unit & Anr. ...Respondents

MR.Ayaz Khan with Mr.Santosh Jagtap for Applicant.
Mr.D.M. Salvi for Respondent (Asstt.Commissioner of Customs).
Mr.S.S. Tatkare, APP for State.

CORAM : V.M. KANADE, J.

DATED : JANUARY 20, 2006

P.C. :-

. Heard learned Counsel for the applicant and learned APP for the State.

. This is an application for bail by the applicant who is arrested for the offence punishable under Section 29 read with Section 8(c), Section 21 read with Section 8(c), Section 23, Section 28 read with Section 8(c) of the NDPS Act. The applicant is arrested on 14th January, 2005.

2. Learned Counsel for the applicant submitted that the applicant is a foreign national. His application

for bail has been rejected by the Sessions Court. At the very outset, he submitted that before going into merits of the case, this Court may expedite the hearing of the trial and he does not press for bail at this stage. He submitted that considering the fact that the applicant is a citizen of South Africa, this court may consider the expedite hearing of trial. He submitted that now there are about seven Special Courts which hear NDPS cases and therefore, to some extent, the hearing of the case may be expedited.

3. Considering the fact that the applicant is a foreign national, in my view, it would be appropriate and just proper if the hearing of the trial is expedited. Hearing expedited.

. Application is disposed of.

(V.M. KANADE, J.)